



RURAL DISTRICT OF SOUTH WESTMORLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT

-----of the -----

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1943.

To the Chairman and Members  
of the Rural District Council of South Westmorland.

Sir and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the Health of the Rural District during the year 1943. The Report follows the lines of those presented during the past two years.

I am indebted to the help I have received from the School Medical Officers of the County in carrying out immunisation against Diphtheria and tend to them my thanks.

Should you desire any further particulars I shall be glad to supply the same on your request.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

(Signed) W. Baron Cockill.

15th May, 1944.

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF. W.H. Aldersley, M.S.I.A., Cert S.I.B. was appointed Additional Sanitary Inspector vice J. Winterbottom deceased.

Owing to Mr. Winterbottom's illness the work of the Sanitary Department was largely carried out for the first five months of the year and entirely for the second five months by Mr.D. Shepherd.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st. December, 1943.

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Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.  
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Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	15.9
" " England & Wales.	16.5

Still Birth per 1,000 total (live and still) births. 34.7

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	12.8
" " England and Wales.	12.1

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:-

	<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.</u>
Puerperal Sepsis.	Nil.	Nil.
Other Puerperal Causes.	1	3.5
Total	1.	3.5

Maternal Mortality Rate, England & Wales. 1.45

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births. 32  
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births. 30  
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births. 77  
Infantile Death Rate, England & Wales. 49

Deaths from Cancer. (all ages).	34
" " Measles. (all ages)	Nil
" " Whooping Cough. (all ages)	1
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).	1.

The largest number of deaths from any one cause were:-

Heart Disease	61.
Cancer.	34.
Intra-cranial vascular lesions.	28.

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

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##### Water.

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Lupton. Supply from the reservoirs during the 12 months has been abundant.

Stainton. The Water supply in this village is unsatisfactory, and a scheme for providing a water supply from the Council's main has been submitted to the Ministry of Health and is awaiting sanction.

Quarterly bacteriological examinations of the public water supplies have been made and the results have been satisfactory.

12 domestic premises have been connected to the main supplies during the year.

##### Drainage and Sewerage.

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A new extension sewer has been made in North Road, Holme, and at Barrows Green House a new sewage disposal works has been installed for the Waifs and Strays Society. Summerlands, Endmoor has been taken over by the Liverpool Seamen's Institute, and extensive alterations are being carried out, including a new sewage disposal works.

##### Housing.

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609 inspections and re-inspections were carried out during the year, and 121 Preliminary Notices served of which 86 had been complied with on December 31st.

Seven condemned houses are let on licence under the provisions of the Emergency Powers Bill.

##### Hostels.

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The Women's Land Army have hostels at Endmoor and Milnthorpe. There is a Hostel at Hincaster House for evacuee problem children.

There is a Maternity Home at Trerose, Arnside, for Expectant Mothers and another at Brettargh Holt under the Convent of the Sacred Heart.

#### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

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##### Milk.

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A Milk and Dairies Committee was formed during the year.

A complete registration of dairymen and dairies has been carried out with the result that at the end of 1943, there were 809 registered farm premises within the District.



75 detailed inspections of farms were made.

118 milk samples were taken during the year of which 28 passed both the Methylene Blue and B.Coli tests. No samples contained B.Tubercle.

The standard of milk production in South Westmorland is very low as far as cleanliness is concerned, and most farms need a thorough reconstruction of shippens and dairies, - many premises at present in use as dairies being entirely unsuitable for use as such.

Seven farm water supplies have been completed during the year with the aid of the grant from the Westmorland War Agricultural Executive Committee and a further six are in hand.

Meat.

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This has been supplied through the Central Slaughterhouse in Kendal.

Adulteration etc., and Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

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The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority and this work is carried out by Mr.C.J.H.Stock, B.Sc., F.I.C., County Analyst, Darlington.

#### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

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There was no large amount of Infectious Disease during the year, Scarlet Fever being less than in the previous year, 25 cases being notified; there were 8 cases of Diphtheria, 4 each of Erysipelas and Puerperal Pyrexia and 1 each of Polio-encephalitis and Ophthalmia Neonatorum, the former of which died. Pneumonia was responsible for 9 notifications and Measles and Whooping Cough showed an increase in incidence with 84 and 35 cases respectively and there was a certain amount of Influenza towards the close of the year but not of a serious character.

Artificial Immunization against Diphtheria has been continued and A.P.T. is the prophylactic which has been used; 139 children under 5 years of age and 211 of school age have been immunised.

The School Medical Officer states that a fairly high standard of Nutrition has been maintained and that it is seldom a verminous child is seen and the high standard of cleanliness which existed before the reception of evacuees has returned.

Modern Isolation Hospital accommodation is still lacking.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES TABLE.

	Total.	Ages.											Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.	
		-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-			65-
Scarlet Fever.	25	-	1	-	-	2	9	10	1	1	1	-	-	24	-
Diphtheria.	8	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	2	-	1	-	8	-
Pneumonia.	9	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	2	3	-	1
Erysipelas.	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	-
Acute Polio-encephalitis.	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-
Measles.	84	-	3	6	8	2	30	28	4	3	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	35	2	2	6	2	7	14	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Total	171	3	7	12	11	11	54	40	10	11	3	4	5	33	2

# TUBERCULOSIS TABLE.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	1
25	6	2	2	-	1	-	2	-
35	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
45	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
55	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL.	8	7	2	1	4	-	2	1

There were 15 cases of Pulmonary and 3 of Non-Pulmonary cases notified. Of these, 7 Pulmonary and 1 Non Pulmonary had contracted the disease outside the area but came to live within it, one being a Military and one a Naval case. Of these 1 Pulmonary and 3 Non-Pulmonary died during the year.